

AF186

ROUTINE

* C O N F I D E N T I A L *

PT 14000. : : 49/

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01

D0009

ACT: PI: COPIES: 565 61 62 63 64 65 A6 CA CE CH CP REC

DC DL DQIM DS EH EN FSE GC IG JA MD PA PAO PM RC RM SLC RTE

UNITS: APT ASOTRD CID COSCOM DRMO HCOBG HOCMT INSCOM ISC JFK LAO REP

MEDDAC RG ROTC SAG SFOU SOCLANT SOCOM SSD SMS 16MP 17MI 1ACA 18ORD FLE

19REP 20ENG 35SIG A2ARM 513MI 525MI 902MI

RTTCZFDY RUEKJCS8764 1491159 PUCL-CCCC--RUCLAKA.
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS8764 1491159-CCCC--RUCLAKA.

ZNY CCCCC

R 041159Z JUL 87

FM JCS WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEADWD/PTC WASH DC

RUCQAAA/USCINCCENT MACDILL AF9 FL

RUWSAAA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//

RUCLAKA/CDR4THPSYOP G FT ARAGG NC//AFVS-P06-E-SS//

RUHMHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUEONIA/CDR513THMIGP FT MONMOUTH NJ//IAN-IC-0//

RHCB5RB/COMUSARCENT FT MCPHERSON GA//AFRO-DS//

RHHMPRA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI

RUEALGX/SAFE

R 040757Z JUL 87

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0000

INFO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0000

RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0000

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208764

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PREL, AF, EG

SUBJECT: BRIEFING THE EGYPTIANS ON AFGHANISTAN

REF. CAIRO 15537

1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT

2. EMBASSY SHOULD ASSURE GOE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS TO WARRANT ANY LESSENING OF THE
PRESSURE ON THE SOVIETS/DRA TO NEGOTIATE A VIABLE
POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. ANY DIMINUTION OF PRESSURE --
PERCEIVED OR REAL -- COULD PROVIDE THEM WITH MORE EXCUSES
TO AVOID THE HARD DECISIONS WHICH MUST PRECEDE SOVIET
TROOP WITHDRAWAL. EMBASSY SHOULD FEEL FREE TO DRAW ON
MATERIAL IN PARA THREE BELOW IN ITS NEXT EXCHANGE WITH
THE GOE ON AFGHANISTAN.

3. AFGHANISTAN -- CURRENT SITUATION

THE WAR: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES, ESPECIALLY NEAR THE
PAKISTAN BORDER, WHERE THE RESISTANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

* C O N F I D E N T I A L *

SUSPECTED DUPLICATE

Handwritten signature and initials

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/MR

REVIEWED BY *Handwritten signature* DATE *4/24/89*
() EXEMPT () DECLASSIFY
() EXEMPT () DECLASSIFY in PART
() DENY () Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemption
TS authority to: *Handwritten*
() CLASSIFY as *Handwritten*
DOWNGRADE TS to () B or () C, OADR

ROUTINE

* C O N F I D E N T I A L * SUSPECTED DUPLICATE

AN ABILITY TO FIGHT THE SOVIETS TO A STANDSTILL IN RELATIVELY LARGE-SCALE CONVENTIONAL COMBAT. DURING RECENT FIGHTING AT ALI KHEYL AND KANDAHAR, THE

SOVIETS/DRA SUFFERED SIGNIFICANT CASUALTIES AND MATERIEL LOSSES IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT RESISTANCE LOC'S: RESISTANCE PRESSURE AROUND KABUL REMAINS STEADY. RECENT ENGAGEMENTS HAVE ALSO UNDERSCORED THE HIGH STATE OF RESISTANCE MORALE, AN ENHANCED LEVEL OF BATTLEFIELD COORDINATION BETWEEN GROUPS FROM DIFFERENT PARTIES, AND THE CONTINUING HEMORRHAGE OF THE ALREADY WEAKENED DRA ARMED FORCES. ENHANCED RESISTANCE ANTI-AIRCRAFT CAPABILITIES HAVE LED TO INCREASED SOVIET/DRA AIR LOSSES AND TO A LESSENING IN THE OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNIST AIRPOWER. DESPITE NAJIB'S ANNOUNCED EXTENSION OF THE SIX-MONTH CEASEFIRE LAUNCHED IN JANUARY, FURTHER HEAVY FIGHTING IS LIKELY THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER.

UN EFFORTS: THE LAST GENEVA ROUND CONCLUDED MARCH 9 WITH A NARROWING OF DIFFERENCES OVER THE TROOP WITHDRAWAL ISSUE: THE DRA NOW OFFERS 18 MONTHS, THE GOP 7. THE SOVIETS/DRA HAVE SUCCESSFULLY SHIFTED THE FOCUS OF NEGOTIATING EFFORTS FROM THE TROOP WITHDRAWAL TIMETABLE TO NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, WHERE THE SOVIET POSITION DIFFERS GREATLY FROM THE GOP'S. ALTHOUGH THE GOP HAD AGREED TO RECEIVE CORDOVEZ IN JULY, THE DRA DECLINED, THEREBY FORCING HIM TO CANCEL HIS PLANS FOR A MID-SUMMER VISIT TO THE REGION. UNHRC RAPPORTEUR ERMACORA'S FIRST VISIT TO KABUL IS SET FOR JULY 29 - AUGUST 8.

DRA: NAJIB'S "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION" CAMPAIGN HAS MADE FEW GAINS: HIS RECENT CALL FOR CONTACTS WITH FORMER MONARCHIST LEADERS AND ALLUSION TO A LEADERSHIP ROLE FOR EX-KING ZAHIR IN A COALITION GOVERNMENT MAY BE INTENDED TO OVERCOME THE LUKEWARM RESPONSE TO HIS EFFORTS, WHILE SEEKING TO DEEPEN THE DIVISIONS IN THE ALLIANCE. INTRA-PARTY FACTIONALISM CONTINUES AND WILL LIKELY INTENSIFY WITH THE JUNE REMOVAL FROM THE POLITBURO OF KARMAI SUPPORTER, ANAHITA RATEBZAD. IN THE MEANTIME, THE KABUL REGIME HAS BEEN WORKING HARD TO EXPAND AND CONSOLIDATE DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. RECENT SUCCESSES INCLUDE ZIMBABWE, CYPRUS, AND POSSIBLY AUSTRIA.

SOVIET INTENTIONS: MOSCOW HAS YET TO MAKE THE DIFFICULT DECISION TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS, WITHOUT BEING SURE IT WILL LEAVE A SECURE, PRO-SOVIET REGIME IN POWER. RECENT STATEMENTS FROM MOSCOW ABOUT A POSSIBLE ROLE FOR EX-KING ZAHIR HAVE BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY A STEPPED-UP CAMPAIGN OF CROSS-BORDER AIR/ARTILLERY ATTACKS, TERRORISM AND SUBVERSION DESIGNED TO FORCE PAKISTAN INTO MAKING SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS. ZAHIR HAS PUBLICLY REJECTED SOVIET OVERTURES.

GOP REACTION: MOST PAKISTANIS APPEAR TO BACK ZIA'S

ROUTINE

* C O N F I D E N T I A L * SUSPECTED DUPLICATE

ROUTINE

CONFIDENTIAL SUSPECTED DUPLICATE

STRONG STAND IN THE FACE OF SOVIET MILITARY PRESSURE. ALTHOUGH THE ESCALATION IN SAROTAGE AND CROSS BORDER VIOLATIONS HAS ADVERSELY AFFECTED REFUGEE-PAKISTANI RELATIONS. RECOGNIZING THAT FURTHER PROGRESS ON A WITHDRAWAL TIMETABLE WILL DEPEND ON PROGRESS ON RECONCILIATION, THE GOP HAS PROPOSED AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT HEADED BY ONE OR MORE NEUTRAL FIGURES AS A POSSIBLE FORMULA FOR RECONCILIATION. THE SOVIETS HAVE FAILED TO RESPOND DIRECTLY TO THIS PROPOSAL. IN THE MEANTIME, THE GOP HAS INTENSIFIED ITS DIALOGUE WITH RESISTANCE LEADERS AND URGED THEM TO FORGE A UNIFIED POSITION ON THIS ISSUE.

AFGHAN RESISTANCE ALLIANCE: THE RESISTANCE LEADERSHIP REMAINS DIVIDED OVER A FORMULA FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, PARTICULARLY ON WHAT ROLE, IF ANY, EX-KING ZAHIR SHOULD PLAY. THEIR JANUARY PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERIM, TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT COMPOSED OF MUJAHIDIN ELEMENTS HAS BEEN SUPERCEDED BY A RECENT PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (SHOORA) THROUGH PARTY-BASED ELECTIONS IN REFUGEE CAMPS AND INSIDE AFGHANISTAN. MODALITIES FOR HOLDING THE ELECTIONS HAVE YET TO BE AGREED ON AND, DUE TO THE INTENSIFICATION OF FIGHTING, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN THE NEAR-TERM.

US POLICY: SOVIET INTENTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN MUST BE TESTED AT GENEVA, AND THROUGH POLITICAL DIALOGUE. US HAS REPEATEDLY UNDERScoreD TO THE SOVIETS THAT AFGHANISTAN REMAINS A BURDEN ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS; WHILE WE SEEK NO STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE IN AFGHANISTAN, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE AFGHAN CAUSE AND PAKISTAN, ABSENT A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. IF THE SOVIETS ARE RETHINKING THEIR AFGHAN POLICY, NOW IS THE TIME TO INCREASE PRESSURE. SMULTZ
BT
#8764

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL SUSPECTED DUPLICATE

ROUTINE